

## FORM SUMMARY

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**Name of Form:** Accommodation/Interpreter Request

**Form Number:** GF-153

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**Statutory Reference:** Title II, Americans with Disabilities Act, §§46.295, 756.01, 756.001(3), 756.03(1), 885.38, 905.015, Wisconsin Statutes

**Purpose of Form:** To assist the court in determining what accommodation might be necessary for a party, witness, juror, attorney, or other individual to participate in court proceedings.

**Who Completes It:** The person seeking the accommodation, his or her attorney, or some advocate on the person's behalf. It may also be completed by court staff in response to a request, such as by telephone.

**Distribution of Form:** ADA Coordinator, others deemed necessary by court

**Accompanying Forms:** Generally none

**New Form/Modification:** Modification; last update 11/99.

**Modifications:** Changed title to "ADA Accommodation Request". Removed "Foreign language interpreter" from accommodation section. Modified contact person information section. Added an approval section.

**Comments:** The court has an obligation under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and certain Wisconsin Statutes to provide an accommodation to anyone who must or wishes to participate in the court proceeding (including spectators). The early determination of the accommodation required will allow the court staff to arrange for the appropriate accommodation on a timely basis. The accommodation provided must match the specific needs of the requestor.

Lack of knowledge of the English language is not considered a disability under the ADA. However, there is a statutory requirement under state law that a foreign language interpreter is necessary for certain participants in court proceedings. See §885.37, Wis. Stats.

There are a wide range of potential accommodations, and the court staff may not be familiar with the range of needs. The requestor is in the best position to identify the most appropriate one, and this form can assist both the requestor and the court in identifying that accommodation. This form can be available at court offices, distributed to attorneys for their use in notifying the court in advance of a need for an accommodation for themselves or a client, distributed to local advocate/social service groups, or provided in response to a notification of an accommodation need in response to a court summons/notice.

The following requests are not accommodations required under the statutes involved with this form:

- transportation;

- lodging;
- requests for an attorney.

**About this form:**

This form is the product of the Wisconsin Records Management Committee, a committee of the Director of State Court's Office and a mandate of the Wisconsin Judicial Conference.

**If you have additional information that does not change the meaning of the form, attach it on a separate page. The form itself shall not be altered.**